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Summary record of the 21st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 8 April 2015, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. Oh Joon (Vice-President) ..... (Republic of Korea)

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In the absence of Mr. Sajdik (Austria), Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (E/2015/1/Add.1)

International Narcotics Control Board (E/2015/9/Add.1)

1. **The President** invited the Council to elect one member of the International Narcotics Control Board to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Mr. Wayne Hall (Australia). There were three candidates nominated by the World Health Organization to fill the seat for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 2017. As the number of candidates exceeded the number of vacancies, he invited the Council to elect the member by secret ballot.

2. *At the invitation of the President, Ms. Sotindjo Loko (Benin) and Ms. Russo (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.*

3. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	53
Number of valid ballots:	53
Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. **Mattick** (Australia)	26
Mr. **Obot** (Nigeria)	26
Mr. **White** (Australia)	1

4. **The President** said that since no candidate had obtained the required majority of votes, in accordance with rule 69, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Council, a second ballot would be taken, confined to the two candidates that had obtained the largest number of votes, Mr. Mattick (Australia) and Mr. Obot (Nigeria).

5. *At the invitation of the President, Mr. Auväärt (Estonia) and Ms. Carías (Honduras) acted as tellers.*

6. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	53
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. **Mattick** (Australia)	27
Mr. **Obot** (Nigeria)	26

7. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Mattick (Australia) was elected to fill the vacancy on the International Narcotics Control Board for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 2017.*

Statistical Commission (E/2015/9)

8. **The President** invited the Council to elect eight members of the Statistical Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

9. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Kenya and Togo had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Qatar and the Republic of Korea had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Latvia and Romania had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; and Cuba had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean **States**.

10. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

11. *Cuba, Kenya, Latvia, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania and Togo were elected members of the Statistical Commission by acclamation.*

12. **The President** said that in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Statistical Commission, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of one member from the Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

13. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Population and Development (E/2015/9)

14. **The President** invited the Council to elect nine members of the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fiftieth session in 2016 and expiring at the close of its fifty-third session in 2020.

15. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Morocco, Sudan and Uganda had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Qatar and Turkmenistan had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; the Republic of Moldova had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; and Chile had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

16. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

17. *Chile, Morocco, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Sudan, Turkmenistan and Uganda were elected members of the Commission on Population and Development by acclamation.*

18. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Commission on Population and Development, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of two members from Western European and other States for a term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fiftieth session in 2016 and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-third session in 2020.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. **The President** invited the Council to take action on outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Population and Development from Asia-Pacific States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fiftieth session in 2017, and from Latin American and Caribbean States, for a term beginning on the first meeting of the Commission's forty-ninth session in 2015 and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-second session in 2019.

21. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Iraq had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States and Jamaica had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

22. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

23. *Iraq and Jamaica were elected members of the Commission on Population and Development by acclamation.*

24. **The President**, urging the regional groups concerned to submit their nominees for vacancies at the earliest opportunity, said that he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of one candidate from Asia-Pacific States and one from Latin American and Caribbean States, both for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's forty-ninth session in 2016.

25. *It was so decided.*

Commission for Social Development (E/2015/9)

26. **The President** invited the Council to elect 15 members of the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-fifth session in 2016 and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-eighth session in 2020.

27. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Ghana and Rwanda had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Bangladesh, Japan and the Republic of Korea had been endorsed by the Asia-Pacific States; the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; and El Salvador, Paraguay and Peru had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

28. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

29. *Bangladesh, El Salvador, Ghana, Japan, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Rwanda were elected members of the Commission for Social Development by acclamation.*

30. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Commission for Social Development, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of two members from African States and three members from Western European and other States for terms beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-fifth session in 2016 and

expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-eighth session in 2020.

31. *It was so decided.*

32. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the outstanding vacancies on the Commission for Social Development from Western European and other States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-seventh session in 2019.

33. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Austria had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

34. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to elect the candidate by acclamation.

35. *Austria was elected a member of the Commission for Social Development by acclamation.*

36. **The President**, urging the regional groups concerned to submit their nominees for vacancies at the earliest possible opportunity, noted that there were five outstanding vacancies on the Commission for Social Development. They included four from Western European and other States, all for terms beginning on the date of election, with one term expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session in 2016, one term expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session in 2017, and two terms expiring at the close of the fifty-seventh session in 2019; and one from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-seventh session in 2019.

Commission on the Status of Women (E/2015/9)

37. **The President** invited the Council to elect 10 members of the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's sixty-first session in 2016 and expiring at the close of the Commission's sixty-fourth session in 2020.

38. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Eritrea and Nigeria had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Kuwait and Qatar had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Brazil, Guatemala and Trinidad and Tobago had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Norway and the United Kingdom had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

39. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

40. *Brazil, Eritrea, Guatemala, Kuwait, Nigeria, Norway, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women by acclamation.*

41. **The President** said that the membership of the Commission on the Status of Women was complete.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2015/9)

42. **The President** invited the Council to elect 20 members of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

43. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and South Africa had been endorsed by the Group of African States; India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Saudi Arabia had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Belarus and Serbia had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala and Mexico had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Austria, France, Sweden and the United States of America had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

44. **The President** said that since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

45. *Austria, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden and the United States of America were elected members of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice by acclamation.*

46. **The President** said that the membership of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was complete.

Committee for Programme and Coordination
(E/2015/9/Add.2)

47. **The President** invited the Council to nominate seven members for election by the General Assembly to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

48. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe had been endorsed by the Group of African States; the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Argentina and Peru had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and France had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

49. **The President** said that since the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to nominate them for election by the General Assembly.

50. *It was so decided.*

51. *Argentina, France, Peru, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe were nominated for election by the General Assembly to the Committee for Programme and Coordination.*

52. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the nomination of one member from Western European and other States for election by the General Assembly.

53. *It was so decided.*

54. **The President** invited the Council to take action on one outstanding vacancy on the Committee for Programme and Coordination from Western European and other States.

55. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Portugal had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly and expiring on 31 December 2017.

56. *It was so decided.*

57. *Portugal was nominated for election by the General Assembly to the Committee for Programme and Coordination.*

58. **The President**, urging the regional groups concerned to submit nominees for vacancies at the earliest opportunity, recalled that there were four outstanding vacancies on the Committee for Programme and Coordination: one from Western European and other States for a term expiring on 31 December 2015; and one from Asia-Pacific States and two from Western European and other States for terms expiring on 31 December 2017, with all terms beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly.

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting
(E/2015/9/Add.3)

59. **The President** invited the Council to elect 13 members of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

60. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Benin, Cameroon, Kenya and Uganda had been endorsed by the Group of African States; and Brazil had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

61. **The President** said that since the number of candidates from African States and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

62. *Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Kenya and Uganda were elected members of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting by acclamation.*

63. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of four members from Asia-Pacific States, two members from Eastern European States and two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

65. *It was so decided.*

66. **The President** recalled that there were 24 outstanding vacancies on the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts to be filled by four candidates from Asia-Pacific States, two from Eastern European States and two from Latin American and Caribbean States for terms expiring on 31 December 2015, and four from African States, one from Asia-Pacific States, three from Latin American and Caribbean States and eight from Western European and other States for terms expiring on 31 December 2017; all those terms would begin on the date of election. He urged the regional groups concerned to submit their nominees for those vacancies at the earliest opportunity.

Committee for Development Policy (E/2015/9/Add.4)

67. **The President** invited the Council to consider the appointment of 24 experts to the Committee for Development Policy.

68. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Jose Antonio Alonso (Spain), Giovanni Andrea Cornia (Italy), Le Dang Doanh (Viet Nam), Diane Elson (United Kingdom), Marc Fleurbaey (France), Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (Japan), Ann Harrison (United States of America), Rashid Hassan (Sudan), Stephan Klasen (Germany), Keun Lee (Republic of Korea), Lu Aiguo (China), Vitalii A. Meliantsev (Russian Federation), Adil Najam (Pakistan), Leonce Ndikumana (Burundi), Keith Nurse (Trinidad and Tobago), José Antonio Ocampo Gaviria (Colombia), Tea Petrin (Slovenia), Pilar Romaguera (Chile), Onalenna Selolwane (Botswana), Claudia Sheinbaum-Pardo (Mexico), Lindiwe Majele Sibanda (Zimbabwe), Zenebework Tadesse (Ethiopia), Dzodzi Tsikata (Ghana) and Juree Vichit-Vadakan (Thailand) had been nominated by the Secretary-General to serve on the Committee in their personal capacity.

69. **The President** said he took it that the Council approved the nomination by the Secretary-General of the 24 experts for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

70. *It was so decided.*

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/2015/9/Add.5)

71. **The President** invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

72. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Libya and Sierra Leone had been endorsed by the Group of African States; India, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Nepal had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Bosnia and Herzegovina had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; El Salvador had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Australia, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

73. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from all regional groups was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

74. *Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cameroon, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libya, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Switzerland were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund by acclamation.*

75. **The President** said that the Council had been informed that Germany, Norway and Spain were resigning their seats on the Executive Board effective 31 December 2015. The Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Andorra to complete the term of office of Germany, beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2016; Luxembourg, to complete the term of office of Norway, beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2017; and the United Kingdom to complete the term of office of Spain, beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2016.

76. *Andorra, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund by acclamation.*

Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

77. **The President** invited the Council to elect four additional members to the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/153 of 18 December 2014.

78. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that the candidates were Armenia, Chad, Georgia and Uruguay.

79. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to elect the candidates by acclamation.

80. *Armenia, Chad, Georgia and Uruguay were elected members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by acclamation.*

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services (E/2015/9/Add.6)

81. **The President** invited the Council to elect 14 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

82. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Malawi and Uganda had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Lao People's Democratic Republic, Republic of Korea and Samoa had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Belarus had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Haiti had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Austria, France, Japan and Spain had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

83. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from all regional groups was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

84. *Austria, Belarus, Benin, Cameroon, Chad, France, Haiti, Japan, Lao People's Republic, Malawi, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Spain and Uganda were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services by acclamation.*

85. **The President** said that the Council had been informed that Australia, Denmark, Italy and the United Kingdom were resigning their seats on the Executive Board effective 31 December 2015. Belgium had been endorsed by their regional group to replace Australia; Canada had been endorsed to replace Denmark; and Turkey had been endorsed to replace the United Kingdom for terms of office beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2017. Switzerland had been endorsed to replace Italy for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2016.

86. *Belgium, Canada, Switzerland and Turkey were elected members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services by acclamation.*

Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/2015/9/Add.8)

87. **The President** invited the Council to elect six members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

88. **Ms. De Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Liberia had been endorsed by the Group of African States (List A); India had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States (List B); the Netherlands and France had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States (List D); and the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States.

89. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from Lists A, B, D and E was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for States included in those lists, he took it that the Council wished to elect them to the Executive Board by acclamation.

90. *India, France, Liberia, the Netherlands and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme by acclamation.*

91. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of one member from List B for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

92. *It was so decided.*

93. **The President** said that the Council had been informed that the Republic of Korea was resigning its seat on the Executive Board, effective 31 December 2015. The members of List B had endorsed China to replace the Republic of Korea for a term of office

beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2017. He took it that the Council wished to elect China by acclamation.

94. *China was elected a member of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme by acclamation.*

Committee for the United Nations Population Award (E/2015/9/Add.9)

95. **The President** invited the Council to elect 10 members of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

96. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Bangladesh and the Islamic Republic of Iran had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States.

97. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from Asia-Pacific States was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

98. *Bangladesh and the Islamic Republic of Iran were elected members of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award by acclamation.*

99. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Committee for the United Nations Population Award, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of three members from African States, one member from Eastern European States, three members from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States, all for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

100. *It was so decided.*

Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/2015/9/Add.10)

101. **The President** invited the Council to elect nine members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

102. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Ghana and Malawi had been endorsed by the Group of African States; China and Japan had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; the Russian Federation had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; and Ecuador had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

103. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States and Latin American and Caribbean States was equal to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

104. *China, Ecuador, Ghana, Japan, Malawi and the Russian Federation were elected members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS by acclamation.*

105. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of three members from the Western European and other States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

106. *It was so decided.*

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (E/2015/9/Add.11)

107. **The President** invited the Council to elect 19 members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2019.

108. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Angola, Chad, Kenya and Nigeria had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Bahrain, India and Turkmenistan had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Georgia and Serbia had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Brazil, Chile and Mexico had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Germany and Sweden had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

109. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from all regional groups was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for each group, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

110. *Angola, Bahrain, Brazil, Chad, Chile, Georgia, Germany, India, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Serbia, Sweden and Turkmenistan were elected members of the*

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme by acclamation.

111. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Governing Council, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of one member from African States, two members from Asia-Pacific States and two members from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

112. *It was so decided.*

113. **The President** invited the Council to take action on outstanding vacancies in the Governing Council to be filled from Eastern European States.

114. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Georgia and Serbia had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States.

115. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to elect Georgia and Serbia, by acclamation, to the Governing Council for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

116. *Georgia and Serbia were elected members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme by acclamation.*

117. **The President**, urging the regional groups concerned to submit nominees for vacancies at the earliest opportunity, said he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of five members from Western European and other States, all beginning on the date of election, one for a term expiring on 31 December 2015, two for terms expiring on 31 December 2016 and two for terms expiring on 31 December 2018.

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
(E/2015/1/Add.1)

118. **The President** invited the Council to consider an outstanding vacancy on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2016. As there were no candidates for that vacancy, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election of one member from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2016.

119. *It was so decided.*

Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2015/9)

120. **The President** invited the Council to elected 33 members to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

121. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Mauritania, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Afghanistan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Korea and Thailand were non-endorsed candidates from Asia-Pacific States; Belarus had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Argentina, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Austria, Germany, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Turkey and the United States of America had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

122. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from African States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States was equal to or less than the number of vacancies for each regional group, he took it that the Council wished to elect the proposed candidates by acclamation.

123. *Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Mauritania, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, the United States of America and Uruguay were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by acclamation.*

124. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from Asia-Pacific States was greater than the number of vacancies, he invited the Council to elect seven members from Asia-Pacific States by secret ballot.

125. **Ms de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Afghanistan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Korea and Thailand were the candidates from Asia-Pacific States.

126. **Mr. Dehghani** (Observer for the Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the Islamic Republic of Iran attached great importance to the work of the Commission and that the re-election of his country to

the Commission would be in the interest of the fight against narcotic drugs at the regional and international level.

127. Drug trafficking was a major challenge for Iran. Its location in the neighbourhood of the largest illicit opium and drug producers in the world and on the transnational routes for illegal traffic in narcotic drugs had unfortunately turned it into a major transit country. Iran had been engaged for a long time in full-fledged combat to root out trafficking in narcotic drugs. Iran had one of the strongest counter-narcotic enforcement capabilities in the world. According to the *World Drug Report 2014* issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in 2012, Iran had been responsible for 74 per cent of the world's opium seizures and 25 per cent of the world's heroin and morphine seizures. It had paid a heavy price for that achievement, spending hundreds of millions of dollars each year on border control, including for construction of physical barriers along the borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan. The barriers had made drug smuggling more risky and difficult.

128. More than 3,700 national law enforcement officials had lost their lives, and over 12,000 had been maimed in counter-narcotic operations over the past three decades. Iran had mobilized more than 30,000 military and disciplinary troops along the borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan to counter narcotic trafficking. In its response to drug trafficking, Iran had the support of the United Nations agencies, and especially of UNODC. It worked closely with the UNODC country office. Iran's contributions to advancing international counter-narcotics policies and programmes and to border management capacities through national, regional and international initiatives had been repeatedly acknowledged. Iran was seeking to expand its partnership with UNODC under the new country partnership 2015-2019.

129. The people of Iran were not the only ones who would benefit from maintaining and furthering cooperation between Iran and the United Nations system, especially the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. People in other countries of the region and the international community would also benefit. All members of the Council were therefore urged to support Iran's re-election to the Commission.

130. At the invitation of the President, Mr. Loko (Benin) and Mr. Russo (United Kingdom) acted as tellers.

131. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	54
Number of valid ballots:	54
Number of members voting:	54
Required majority:	28
Number of votes obtained:	
Japan	53
China	52
Republic of Korea	51
Qatar	49
Pakistan	45
Thailand	42
Islamic Republic of Iran	38
Afghanistan	33

132. *Having obtained the required majority, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Korea and Thailand were elected to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.*

133. **The President** said that in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of two members from Eastern European States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

134. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.